

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

MRS. L. E. POLK, - PROPRIETOR.
J. L. RAMSEY, - EDITOR.
J. W. DENMARK, - BUSINESS MANAGER.
RALEIGH, N. C.

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RALEIGH, N. C., DEC. 20, 1892.

This paper entered as second-class matter at the Post Office in Raleigh, N. C.

The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' State Alliance

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N. R. P. A.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

*. Baltimore had a \$750,000 cotton fire on the 13th.

*. A California editor publicly denounces the report that he has joined the church as "a campaign lie."

*. There are things in our State that need looking after just as much as in the Nation. Don't forget to be on the lookout.

*. The South Carolina legislature has passed a bill forbidding the sale of liquor except for medical, scientific and sacramental purposes.

*. One of our North Carolina exchanges contains the advertisement of a man who takes pictures half of the week and shoes horses the other half.

*. Both branches of the South Carolina Legislature passed a Railroad Commission bill Friday. It gives the Commission full powers to make rates.

*. On the 13th Senator George, of Mississippi, addressed the Senate in favor of the anti-option bill now pending. He made a number of good arguments.

*. Revive your Alliance if it is dormant. Meet together and resolve that plutocracy shall not step in and injure the next best organization after the church.

*. Educate. See that your schools are in good working order this winter. Read. Subscribe for as many papers as you can and read both sides of everything.

*. It is said that President Harrison has saved much of his salary during his term. Perhaps that accounts for his notion that the country is very prosperous.

*. The Sub Alliances in Catawba county are calling for proof of the existence of Gideons Band from those who are alleging that members belong to the Band.

*. The Farmers' Alliance is a necessity. Its educational and social workings are commendable, and every farmer should belong to the Order from this if from no other reason.

*. It looks like the war is over. Col. Harris, the ex-Confederate Congressman elected at the recent election in Kansas, not only got a majority, but ran 2,000 votes ahead of the other tickets.

*. Bro. J. F. Click announces that Mr. A. S. Forney, late of New York, a practical printer, has bought a half interest in the Hickory Mercury. The Mercury is a bold advocate of Alliance principles and deserves success.

*. Gen. Robert B. Vance, brother of Senator Vance, and Miss Lizzie R. Cook, of Graham county, were married on the 15th. The General and bride will spend the winter in Raleigh, he being a member of the next Legislature.

*. A Northern professor has been experimenting with brainless dogs. One dog lived eighteen months after its brain was taken out. That is nothing. There are thousands of brainless men in the country. Some of them live to be 70 and 80 years old.

*. The Farmers' Advocate, Tarboro, has been purchased by President Butler, but will be published by him at

some other point. Bro. J. B. Lloyd, the editor of the Advocate, being compelled to quit newspaper work on account of trouble with his eyes. Bro. Lloyd is a fine writer, and will contribute articles to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER occasionally.

*. The Philadelphia Times thinks the persons who are trying to steal votes in the West ought to be given a taste of lynch law. Now if that is to be the fashion the country will be nearly depopulated, for there are more vote stealers than honest men.

*. We have watched the proceedings of Congress closely for the past few days hoping to give our readers some news from that body. But with the exception of a good deal of contention over the proper way to adjourn, there has been nothing worthy of note.

*. What a spectacle! All the leading nations of the world assembled, through their representatives, in an international monetary conference, and each and all humbly bowing to the dictates of Baron Alfred de Rothschild, the head of the Bank of England!

*. We are indebted to Rev. N. B. Cobb, of Raleigh, for a copy of the North Carolina Baptist Almanac for 1893. This is a standard almanac. It contains a number of illustrations and valuable information in addition to the assurance that we are to have another year.

*. The wheat crop of the world is estimated by statisticians to be 45,000,000 less than it was last year, and yet the price of wheat is about 30 per cent. less than it was a year ago. Farmers will learn sometime that other causes than supply and demand effect the price of their products.

*. An exchange says something about the use of paper teeth. It does not say whether the teeth were made of paper, or a peculiar kind made for masticating paper. If the latter, we presume they were made to the order of some newspaper man that he might economize by living on his old exchanges.

*. If the various reform organizations cease to exist and the people make no efforts to secure a change, do you suppose any political party will recognize the appeals for justice? No party is pure enough to do anything unless the masses urge them forward. Remember that and be sure to go to work to build up the Alliance.

*. We hear much about evictions for failure to pay rent in Ireland. About 5,000 families are turned out of doors annually. In New York City it is said that 20,000 families were evicted for the same reason last year. While we are shedding tears for people over the big pond, there might be a little work done along that line over here.

*. The new Secretary of State in Colorado, Nelson O. McClees, is a native of Washington county, this State. He left this State with his parents when he was twelve years old. You can't down a North Carolinian. He ran for office on the People's party ticket, the entire ticket of that party being elected in Colorado. Doubtless some of the older citizens of our State remember the McClees family.

*. Men who contribute money to buy the people's representatives are deadly enemies of the republic. They are masquerading in the garb of righteousness, and address the people in the language of patriotism, but their virtues are assumed and they are hypocrites and assassins of liberty; they would welcome a dynasty rather than shed their blood in defense of popular government.—W. Q. Gresham.

A BOLD SCHEME.

Last week while the Anti Option bill was under consideration in the Senate, the price of cotton was lowered in New York, the object being to create the impression that the passage of the bill would lower the price of products. Yet these same men agree that supply and demand govern prices at all times. They also claim that farm products are kept up in price by the future dealers. Right there is a contradictory statement. Who will be foolish enough to believe such logic?

When the Alliance first declared against option dealing it struck the keynote to a great many of the wrongs that the farmers suffer and it would be worse than cowardly to stop the fight for the passage of a good bill. The Hatch bill evidently is on the right line, but if it does not cover all the ground we hope all the friendly representatives in Washington will go to work and make it what we want. The very fact that the future dealers are so bitterly opposed to the passage of the bill is proof that it will benefit the farmers and everybody else except those who are getting millions out of the business.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER has worked hard for you. Now send in what you owe so we can pay our debts.

NEVER HAS BEEN.

It is impossible to please everybody. Bro. Miller of the Living Issues, published at High Point, criticizes THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for "dropping the People's party," says "the party is now without a mouthpiece." Bro. Miller has fallen into an error just as others have. This paper never has been a party organ. Since it has been published, the teaching of the Alliance has been to "support the men and parties that recognize our demands as just. Four years ago this paper advised its readers to vote with the Democratic party because we believed its platform nearer the Alliance than the Republican. Two years ago the State campaign was fought. Without authority from anybody we urged the Democratic party to accept the Ocala platform, and asked every voter to go into the primaries, county and State conventions and insist on recognition. As a result the entire Democratic element in the Alliance did so. At the same time many Republicans who believed in our principles joined in and voted that way. Many Alliancemen were elected to legislative and county offices. This paper did this believing it to be the best for the Alliance. We defended quite a number of Democrats because we believed them to be good Alliancemen. Still THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER was not "partisan." This year the same course was pursued, but many were kept out of the primary and county conventions illegally. Our platform was not adopted. The People's party did adopt it, however. But this paper never became a party organ. We published less partisan matter during the campaign of 1892 than for the same time in 1888 and 1890. We simply followed our own teaching—stick to the men and parties that stand by our principles. We did not make a personal warfare on the candidates of any party. When necessary, we did defend Alliancemen and Alliance principles. We published appointments for State conventions and speakers. All this we did during other campaigns. We did our best to expose political trickery and fraud; this we expect to do as long as we do anything. There are plenty of people who will testify that they wrote partisan matter, a great deal of it, too, which we did not publish. There has not been an issue of this paper since it started that did not contain something more or less political. We have friends in all parties—friends whom we try to accommodate. In doing so, we have felt often like they were asking too much. But as much political matter as we have admitted to our columns, it is small in comparison to the amount that has been left out.

We have dropped nothing. Our principles are right. We shall defend them to the end, and the party or men that recognize them may always expect hearty encouragement. However, since the election, we deem it best to avoid political discussions, and for that reason requested our correspondents to write on other matters, as there is no use fighting after the war is over. Men are still hot headed, and immediately after a campaign are likely to say too much, as well as during a campaign.

THE BUSINESS AGENCY.

Has your Alliance a business agent? Is he a properly bonded official? Is he taking the orders of the brethren for goods and trading through our State Business Agent? If not, why not? These are not idle questions. Every Alliance should see to it at once that the best business man in the Alliance is made business agent; that he is properly bonded and places himself in prompt communication with the State Agent at Raleigh. The State Agent is one of the most energetic, wide awake, active and safe business men in the State. He keeps posted. He can help you. He could just as well as not purchase the shoes, hats, clothing, cooking utensils, plows, hoes, axes, stoves and in fact everything the brotherhood need. He could purchase them at as low prices as any merchant could and save the merchant's profit to our members. Let your Sub-Alliance thoroughly organize on strictly business principles. Let the brethren get together, decide what they want, correspond with brother Worth and see if arrangements cannot be made whereby every member of the Order can get all he wants; sugar, coffee, molasses, implements of every kind, clothing, shoes, etc., in fact everything that is wanted. This is one of the main objects of the Alliance. It costs the Order no more to purchase all the whole brotherhood wants than it does to purchase one-tenth of what one-tenth of them want, and it does not cost as much to run the whole State Agency as it costs to run any first-class merchandising establishment doing not more than half the business. What, pray, is a merchant? He is simply a business agent for a certain line of such friends as elect to trade with him. He is simply

a self-appointed agent for his customers. How many of these agents are there in North Carolina? As many as there are of bankers, commission merchants, clothiers, hardware dealers, bar keepers, etc., all combined. Who appoints them? They appoint themselves. Who pays them? They get it from the customers they serve. Who are their customers? The farmers of North Carolina. Isn't the whole army of merchants of every class and commission men of every class, with their legions of clerks and drummers, a very expensive luxury for the farmers to carry? It surely is. We are not fighting these men. They are taking care of themselves. They have thorough organizations. They work together for their own interest and protection, and if the farmers would stand together as one man and purchase every possible article they need through the State Agency, and do without that they do not need for a very few years, there is not one in a thousand who would not stand to the Order and fight for it if need should arise.

JUST WAIT.

There will be some loud calamity howling done in New York and vicinity one of these days. First, the coal mines raised the price of coal. Next the railroads raised the freight. A few days ago the retail coal dealers in New York held a meeting and raised the price twenty-five cents per ton. There is now nothing left for the people but to stand and be robbed. There is a fair prospect of another rise all along the line. The South has been the paradise for trusts a long time. Now that the Northeast is getting pulled at such a vigorous rate, the chances are that calamity howlers will be heard from pretty soon.

BAD DOINGS IN FRANCE.

The French Government is in a turmoil over the recent corrupt developments in connection with the Panama Canal. One after another of the members of the Cabinet have resigned, and it appears that President Carnot will have to reorganize his staff. Money, it seems, was freely used, and persons in high authority accepted it with thanks. Not only that but there are grave suspicions of murder all through the scandal.

It will be a wonder if something of the kind does not occur before the Nicaragua Canal business is settled.

NOW WE SEE IT.

The Woman's Chronicle, edited by ladies at Little Rock, Ark., thinks one of the objections to Mrs. Lease as a Senator is that she would not be likely to patronize the bar room in the National Capital building.

There is something in this. That saloon is one of the "infant industries," and must be protected. The most ardent tariff reformers want to see it flourish, and to elect anybody to office who would not be a regular patron would be a crime. In this saloon legislation is blocked. The dignified Senator and the solemn looking Congressman are taken in there. A glass or two of fine whisky makes them feel rich, and they easily convince themselves that America is inhabited by a set of ignorant calamity howlers, and no legislation is needed.

A MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

It has been the custom in this establishment, as it is in most well regulated newspaper offices, for all the force to take one week in each year to visit their cousins and sweethearts and have a good time. So you need not look for THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER next week. We take this occasion to thank our friends and subscribers for their past patronage, and wish for them all the mirth and happiness possible during the holiday season and the blessings of a Divine providence to guide them through the incoming year. What a good time it will be for our friends to remember us also and send in their clubs of renewals and new subscribers. We hope we shall hear from many of you between this and our next issue, January 3d, 1893.

FIRST GUN FOR THE RELIEF FUND.

Friday, the first payment was made through the relief plan of the State Alliance. A check was sent for \$50 to Bro. George W. Brown, a member of Montecello Alliance, No. 1,626, Washington county. His loss was the death of a horse. It will be quite a help to him, no doubt.

So far only a small portion of the Sub-Alliances have paid in their quarterly contribution to the fund. All should attend to this at once and get in position to share the advantages. A few days ago a Sub Alliance sent in their portion due the fund, and then made application for payment of a loss occurring several months ago. Remember that no losses are paid unless they occur after the Alliance becomes a member of the relief fund.

SIXTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE N. C. BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

FOURTH DAY.

MONDAY, a. m. Dec. 12.

(As our reporter could not attend the whole session to day, he has only given us a few items.)

The first business after spending half an hour in devotional services, was the reading of

TREASURER'S REPORT.

This report shows expenditures for the year as follows:

For State Missions.....	\$14,272 95
For Colportage.....	515 11
For Foreign Missions.....	10,247 72
For Home Missions.....	7,218 82
For Board of Education.....	3,731 50
For Endowment of Wake Forest College.....	48 75
For Robeson Institute.....	3,600 00
For Baptist Female College.....	15,207 40
For South Aid Fund.....	118 42
For Orphanage.....	11,860 30
For Minister's Aid Fund.....	1,075 05
For Church Extension.....	499 02
For Sunday Schools.....	7,019 10

Total for all objects.....\$76,420 81
Then came the report of the Board of Trustees of

WAKE FOREST COLLEGE.

From this report we make the following extract: "The present endowment is about \$185,000, and the Bostwick fund which is about \$15,000. For three months past the president has been relieved of all responsibility for the internal administration of the college, which has been managed by Prof. W. L. Poteat. Never has there been better behavior and better work in the history of the college than during the present session, and never a larger proportion of promising young men at the institution. The number of students for the session of 1890-'91 was 233, and the number for 1892-'93 is 185 and not likely to be more than 200. This decrease may in part be accounted for by the short crops, low prices and consequent financial distress of our people, but after due consideration it is believed the decrease is due largely to the sharp competition by the State University; the requirements for admission and graduation in the A. B. course are practically the same in both institutions. This, with the large number of free scholarships provided, not by taxation, but by donations, extensively offered and to which we cannot and do not object, but on the contrary rejoice in when properly used, makes the competition more serious than in former years.

"Since the founding and organization of Wake Forest College in 1834 it has had a continual, but successful struggle for enlarged usefulness, and it now behooves the friends as perhaps never before to be wide awake and eagle-eyed that they may meet more wisely and overcome most successfully all influences which dominate or endanger its patronage and to project and execute such plans as will build up and enlarge the influence and usefulness of this our beloved institution.

The allusion to the University in this report was objected to by Dr. Hunn and Dr. Carroll, but after remarks by Mr. T. M. Pittman, Dr. Hufham, Dr. Taylor and others, these objections were withdrawn and the report was adopted.

THE FEMALE UNIVERSITY.

The trustees of this institution reported the progress made this year. They have purchased a site of three acres in almost the very heart of the city of Raleigh, at a cost of \$14,000, all paid except \$3,000, which is not due until January 1st, 1893, with good subscriptions due January 1st, and cash in hand fully sufficient to meet this obligation.

The property now yields for rent \$610 per year. The trustees hold a deed also to a farm of 150 acres in Wake county, worth \$600. The trustees have unanimously decided to employ such means as they deem necessary and push the work with unremitting diligence.

This report was spoken to by Dr. Skinner, Dr. Hume, Dr. Pritchard, Rev. Mr. Boon and Broughton.

The report of the committee on PERIODICALS was read endorsing the Biblical Recorder as the organ, and other Baptist papers as side-lights, etc., and urged the membership to support the Biblical Recorder.

The report of a committee appointed by the convention at Goldsboro a year ago was called for. This report stated that the committee had examined the subscription and advertising accounts, etc., of the Biblical Recorder, and it was their opinion that the price—\$2 per year—was as low as the paper could be furnished to subscribers. This was endorsed by the convention without a dissenting voice.

It was decided to continue the institute work for the instruction of colored freed ministers.

After announcing the centennial committee, and the ministers' relief board, the convention adjourned to meet next year in Elizabeth City, N. C. Thus closed one of the largest, best

and most harmonious sessions the convention has ever held.

We hereby tender our sincere thanks to the large number of the brethren both lay and clerical, who called upon us and encouraged us not only with kind words and good wishes, but with their subscriptions and renewals.

TO PAY BACK TAXES.

By a recent decision of the Supreme Court, the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad is required to pay back taxes for every year since 1852. These taxes will probably aggregate \$250,000. The PROGRESSIVE FARMER this matter might never have been brought to the attention of the people; there would have been no Railroad Commission, collection of back taxes, for no other paper ever said a word until after we had the matter well under way.

MISLEADING FIGURES.

President Harrison, in his recent message, makes use of figures that are entirely incorrect. He says: "The total wealth of the country in 1860 was \$16,159,616,058; in 1890 it amounted \$62,610,000,000, an increase of 287 per cent." Now for the facts: In 1860 the total amount of property taxed was \$16,159,616,058. The untaxed property was estimated at \$31,201,910,676. At the two together and we have \$47,361,526,744. The totals given for 1890 are both taxed and untaxed, amounting \$62,610,000,000.

TRADING IN FUTURES.

The most of those who argue against the passage of a law to prevent trading in futures refer with a good deal of exultation to the recent advance in the price of cotton as proof positive of the advantage to the producer of this kind of illegitimate business and call upon national legislators to hesitate before enacting any law against a business which they claim has added \$100,000,000 to the wealth of the South in this recent advance. In the first place this amount of added wealth is a fallacy and extravagant claim for the reason that when the advance came all the estimates agreed that at least 4,500,000 bales out of an estimated crop of 6,000,000 bales had passed out of the hands of the producers, thus leaving only 1,500,000 bales in their hands, the full value of which at 10 cents a pound would be less than \$100,000,000, a good deal, says the People's Advocate.

Let us note a few facts and see who have probably been the beneficiaries of this advance. This rise did not occur until three-fourths of the crop had passed out of the hands of the men who followed the plow and swung the hoe during the summer heats. The total advance from 7½ cents which is about the average at which most of it has been sold will foot up to about \$10 a bale. Then if 4,500,000 bales had been sold here are \$45,000,000 turned into somebody else's pockets than the farmers'. A pretty nice plum for somebody, and it makes no difference to him who got it, the farmer has to stand by and see a useful face and empty pocket and others reaping the fruits of his toil. Suppose every dollar of this \$45,000,000 was made by people here in the South other than the producer, in what way does it help the farmer? It makes very little difference to him after it is gone to tell him that his neighbor got it. What he wants to know is how he can get it and how to keep him from getting it next time, and these two things the producers are fast finding out and when they do find it out will apply the remedy. And again, the \$10 a bale to the value of the 1,500,000 bales still left in the hands of the farmers and you can readily see who has made the money out of this crop.

But the claim that trading in futures has been the means of bringing this advance proves too much, it seems to us for if that system of doing business is to be credited with every increase in the cotton market it must be debited with every depression, and that being true how will the debit and credit side of the account stand when we remember the two last years of low-priced cotton?

It seems to us absurd to say that these men who traded in futures do so for the purpose of helping the farmer and enabling them to realize the most possible out of their crop. They are playing a game of "battledore and shuttlecock" with the products of the farm. It is a gambling game and has about it all the fascination of a game of faro. It is not right and would seem to be contrary to good public policy to allow a false system of trading based upon nothing but man who actually buys and holds the actual products of a rise in the markets is doing some of a legitimate business but the man who bets that the price of cotton will rise or will not be so much as grain will or will not be in the future is some specified time in the future is doing a legitimate business. He is standing on the highway of legitimate commerce and demanding a toll of those that pass by.

Whether or not the evil can be corrected by legislation is one of the economic problems to see it tried. It is should like to see it tried. It is alike to the producer and to the legitimate dealer in his products.